



# Mayor's Monthly Newsletter

Written by Mayor Rod Erskine

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Updates on Important Issues

## **Vacant Council Position**

As some of you are aware, Sandra Joachim has resigned from Council Position 2. I personally want to thank Sandy for her service to Jersey Village, not only on Council, but as a past member of our police department and her extensive work with the DARE program at our local schools. Per our City Charter, council will vote on a replacement to fill the position through the date of the May 2014 elections, at which time a permanent member will be elected to fill the remaining one year of the term for Council Position 2. Council may choose to select a replacement as early as the January 20, 2013 meeting. Interested candidates should contact the City Secretary for information. (Please see the back article for more details)

## **CenterPoint Energy Presentation to Council**

Following up on the meeting Mike Castro and I had at CenterPoint's office, Paul Wilson and Adrian Moreno, along with several members of their staff, attended the November council meeting and made a presentation regarding the reliability issues we are experiencing in JV. Most notably, they indicated that reliability performance for most of our residential area falls in the lower 10 percentile based on the SAIDI and SAIFI scoring system. They stated they are implementing steps to address critical issues, including a major project that will isolate our circuits from surrounding areas as I discussed in October's newsletter. Completion is expected during the first quarter of 2014. Time will tell, but I believe it was significant that they would discuss these issues on the record if they weren't serious about trying to resolve them. We will continue to have dialogue with them and have requested monthly updates which I will share with you. Please continue to email me reports of outages at your homes as they occur.

Thank you to those who were able to attend – we had one of the larger turnouts for a council meeting in some time.

## **Flood Insurance Issue**

Some of you recently received an e-blast from Congressman Culberson's office suggesting that FEMA was updating flood maps in our area based on Biggert-Waters Act - this is inaccurate. The maps contain some very minor updates in our city that are not related to the drainage improvements made over the past few years. I still believe the best hope for near-term relief is to continue to press Senators Cornyn and Cruz, and Congressman Culberson to support the pending legislation to delay the act until the financial impact is analyzed. In the interim, the city will be looking at any potential actions we might take under the Community Rating System (CRS) that may positively impact our city's flood rating.

Until next month.

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### **City Seeking to Fill Council Vacancy**

At the November 18, 2013 Regular Meeting of the Jersey Village City Council, Resolution 2013-78 was passed, accepting the resignation of Council Member Sandra Joachim, and declaring a vacancy of city Council Member Place 2. City Council is now seeking to fill this position for a term that will expire in May, 2014. Qualifications required to hold office may be reviewed at Section 2.02 of the City Charter. The City Charter may be accessed online through the Jersey Village web site ([www.jerseyvillage.info](http://www.jerseyvillage.info)). Prospective officeholders should complete the Application for City Boards, Commissions, and Committees that is available under the City Secretary page of the Jersey Village web site. Please write "City Council" under the Comments Section of the application. Completed forms should be received at city hall, or e-mailed to the office of the city secretary no later than 5:00 PM, January 15, 2014. Incomplete applications and applications received after this deadline will not be forwarded to city council.

City Council has requested that prospective candidates be prepared to deliver a three to five minute presentation at the beginning of the January 20 city council meeting. Candidates should be prepared to present their qualifications for office, in addition to providing an explanation of why they desire to hold office.